JOSEPH A. JACHIMCZYK, M.D., J.D. FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST ATTORNEY AT LAW CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER



228-8311 EXT. 671 (DAY) EXT. 212 (NIGHT)

OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER OF HARRIS COUNTY

HARRIS COUNTY COURT HOUSE HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

AUTOPSY REPORT

Case 73 - 3333

August 9, 1973

PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS ON THE BODY

OF

Michael Anthony Baulch 439 West 16th Street Houston, Texas

Gunshot wounds (2) of head, close range.

OPINION

It is our opinion that the decedent, Michael Anthony Baulch, came to his death as a result of gunshot wounds (2) of head, close range - Homicide.

It is our further opinion that death occurred on or about August 21, 1972.

COMMENT: In view of the above, it is our opinion, based upon a reasonable medical probability, these are the remains of Michael Anthony Baulch.

Chief Medical Examiner

(See Companion Cases 73-3332, 73-3334, 73-3335, 73-3336, 73-3337, 73-3338, 73-3339, 73-3347, 73-3348, 73-3349, 73-3350, 73-3353, 73-3354, 73-3355, 73-3356 and 73-3357)

POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION ON THE BODY OF

Michael Anthony Baulch 439 West 16th Street Houston, Texas

HISTORY: The body of this unidentified young male teenager (Unknown #2) was found at approximately 8:00 p.m. on August 8, 1973, in Stall #11, at 4500 Silverbell Street, Houston, Texas. (See Companion Cases 73-3332, 73-3334, 73-3335, 73-3336, 73-3337, 73-3338, 73-3339, 73-3347, 73-3348, 73-3349, 73-3350, 73-3353, 73-3354, 73-3355, 73-3356, and 73-3357)

AUTOPSY: The autopsy was performed by Chief Medical Examiner Joseph A. Jachimczyk, M.D., assisted by Assistant Medical Examiner Ethel E. Erickson, M.D., and assisted by Dr. Paul G. Stimson, beginning at 4:00 p.m. on August 9, 1973, in the Harris County Morgue.

EXTERNAL APPEARANCE: The body measured an approximate 70 inches in length and weighed a total of 70 pounds. The head was symmetrical and covered with light brown hair, measuring up to approximately 7 inches in length. Covering the eyes and face, there was heavy adhesive tape, and there was a mouth gag. The gag was a portion of Turkish towel. The facial features were not recognizable. The teeth were in a good condition. In the forehead, at a point 1 inch above the glabella, there was a gunshot entrance wound, the lumen of which measured .25 inches in diameter. In the right side of the head, there was another gunshot wound, just 1 inch above the right external ear. This wound measured 3/8 inch in diameter and had black discoloration on the surrounding bone. Each of the wounds had dark black charring on the bone. The neck was long, loose, flabby and thin. The thorax was symmetrical but fallen in, due to decomposition. The abdomen was scaphoid, also due to decomposition. Abundant fragments of cheesy material were over the anterior abdomen and anterior surfaces of the lower extremities. The upper extremities consisted only of wet bones. No hands were present. The feet were absent. The back was mostly deteriorated and partially eaten away with lime. Wrapped around the head, there was a blue plastic material tied with sash cord. There was also a loop of sash put around the chest. The skin of the chest and abdomen was parchment-like. The sagittal and coronal sutures of the skull were very sharply and clearly delineated.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION: Section: There were large defects in the lateral thorax and abdomen. The ribs were exposed. The costal chondral junctions were not calcified. The thoracic and abdominal viscera were largely decomposed and collapsed. The coronary arteries were smooth, thin, glistening and pliable. The remainder of the abdominal viscera were decomposed and partially destroyed with quick lime.

LUNGS: Only fragments of decomposed lung tissue remained.

LIVER: The liver weighed 300 grams. It was mostly decomposed.

BONES: There were no bony abnormalities, except for the missing bones and the two gunshot entrance wounds in the skull.

HEAD: The scalp was reflected in the usual coronal fashion. There were two separate bullet holes in the calvarium. Each of these was surrounded by a dark ring, extending 3/4 inch. The lumen of the one in the right temporal bone measured 3/8 inch in diameter, while that of the glabella measured .25 inches in diameter. The brain was soft and mushy. There were two misshapen .22 caliber bullets in the mushy brain, which weighed 150 grams. The base of the skull was intact.

A second series of skeletal X-rays were made following the autopsy and cleaning of the body. These films were made for the purpose of evaluation of bone age.

An anteroposterior view of the chest and shoulders showed all bones to be intact, including the spine, ribs, clavicles, and scapulae and humeri. The proximal ends of the humeri showed well defined epiphyseal plates, which were quite thin and centrally suggested scars of recent union. However, at the margins of the bone, there were small defects which indicate that fusion was incomplete. The distal ends of the humeri were not seen on this film. The proximal ends of the clavicles were visible. There was no evidence of a proximal clavicular epiphysis.

A film of the lower abdomen and pelvis included also a right ulna and the left ulna and radius. The radius appeared to be separated from the skeleton and was placed in inverted position. The proximal ends of the ulnas were not well visualized due to residual radio-opaque material, apparently lime. The distal end of the left ulna showed an apparently unfused epiphysis. The epiphyseal plate was well visualized. The proximal radial epiphysis appeared to be fused. The distal radial epiphysis was not well visualized. The pelvis showed well defined calcified epiphyses of the iliac crests. The right was better visualized than the left, but neither crest appeared to be fused in any portion. The upper portions of both femurs were visible, but the degree of fusion could not be evaluated on this film.

An X-ray of the knees and portions of one foot comprised the third film. The foot was present as a separate specimen. The distal conjoint femoral epiphyses appeared to be fused, but the degree of fusion was not evaluable on this film. The proximal tibias showed what appeared to be a scar on epiphyseal union and the cortical outlines showed no visible defect. The proximal portions of both fibulae were visible, but the degree of epiphyseal fusion could not be evaluated.

Based upon the above information, the age of this decedent was estimated at 15 to 18 years.

DENTAL EXAMINATION

The Universal System is used. No fillings are present. Tooth number 1 is avulsed. The upper left and lower left and lower right third molars are impacted. There are caries as follows: occlusal caries in the upper right second molar, tooth number 2; there is attrition on the incisal edges of the upper right and left cuspids, teeth 6 and 11; there is occlusal caries on the lower left second molar, tooth 18; there is attrition on the incisal edges of the lower canines, which are teeth 22 and 27; there are occlusal caries on the lower right first and second molars, which are teeth 30 and 31. There is a chip on the incisal edge of tooth number 9, and a vertical crack on tooth number 8. The crack is approximately in the mid line. The jaw relationship is normal.

Paul G. Stimson, D.D.S., M.S.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

October 8-9, 1973

Mrs. Baulch, together with Barbara Jo Cox, was at the Harris County Morgue between 9:30 a.m. and Noon on October 8, 1973, and was shown photographs of all of the clothing. She did not identify any items from the clothing on that day. Mr. Knowles, however, noticed a visible reaction when she looked at the silver belt buckle. She was then shown the hair display of the victims and said that Unknown #26 was similar to the hair of Billy, but Unknown #2 was too light to be similar to the hair of Michael. She was then shown three photographs of Unknown #2. She said she was unsure, but that it might be Michael. She was then shown the jaws of Unknown #2. She looked at them and stated that she could not be sure, but it could be Michael's mouth. Prior to this, however, she described a chip in tooth #9 and a vertical crack in tooth #8 on Michael.

She was then shown the maxilla of Unknown #26. When she saw the teeth in the anterior posterior view and then when the maxilla was being rotated so that she could have a headon look at the teeth numbers 8 and 9, she exclaimed "That's Billy's teeth" and broke into tears. After comforting her for approximately twenty minutes, we then asked her to look again at the maxilla and mandible of Unknown #2 and she said that that could be Michael, but she was not sure. She requested that her husband be permitted to see what she was shown this date. In fact, her niece, Barbara Jo Cox, called Mr. Baulch and spoke with him on the telephone. I also spoke with Mr. Baulch on the telephone and we made a date for him to come in with Mrs. Baulch between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. on October 9, 1973.

Between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. on October 9, 1973, Mr. Baulch was shown the same items. Initially, he thought that the hair of Unknown #2 was not quite coarse enough to be that of Michael, but that the hair of Unknown #26 could be Billy. He then looked at the photographs and he recognized the silver buckle and the belt to which it was attached as being his which he gave to Michael to wear. He was then shown the buckle and the belt, and he examined them very carefully, and both he and Mrs. Baulch agreed that that was the belt that Michael wore. Mrs. Baulch also stated how she cut the end of the

belt off to make it fit Michael. Mr. Baulch mentioned the stretching in the backside and demonstrated that. He demonstrated the sag in the backside of the belt and explained the reason for it happening, namely he being a truck driver sitting in that position for long intervals of time. He was then shown the same photographs of the Unknown #2 body taken during the autopsy and was not quite sure at that point whether it was Michael or not. He was then shown the maxilla of Billy first and he agreed with his wife's statement that this was Billy's mouth. He was then shown the maxilla and mandible of Unknown #2 and stated that that looked like it, but that he could not be positive immediately. He studied the teeth more fully. He, as well as Mrs. Baulch, remembered a crack in tooth #8, running the vertical length of the tooth. He related as to the manner of how he sustained that injury, when he jumped off and struck his chin against his knee and cracked his tooth. He also recognized the attrition resultant from the grinding habit that Michael was known to have. Both parents mentioned this even before we showed them the teeth. He then studied the smile by cupping his hands over the jawbones and looking only at the teeth and decided that yes that was Michael.

Finally, at their request, they were shown all of the autopsy photographs of Unknown #2, including the two gunshot holes, and at this point, each parent agreed it was Michael and that was Michael's hair. Accordingly, the body of Unknown #2, Michael, and the skeletal remains of Unknown #26, Billy Baulch, were made ready for release to the Heights Funeral Home, which was the wish of the parents. The funeral services were scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on October 12, 1973.

Mrs. Baulch also pointed out that the canines of Billy were real pointed and the canines on Michael were more worn and flat. This conforms to the appearance of these teeth in Unknown #2 and Unknown #26.

Autopsy

INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

Investigator: L. C. Kelly

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Case No. 73 - 3333

Decedent: Michael Anthony Baulch Race W Sex M Age 15

Address: 439 West 16th Street, Houston, Texas

Death: FOUND August 8, 1973 Approx. Time 8:00 XXXXXX P.M.

Place of Death: 4500 Silverbell Street, Stall #11, Houston, Texas

Place of Inquest: 4500 Silverbell Street, Stall #11, Houston, Texas

Place of inquest: 4500 billveibell beleet, beatl #11, houseon, leads

Date and Time of Inquest: August 8, 1973

8:45 XXXXXXX

Location, Position, and Surroundings of Body:

The decedent was lying in grave #1, wrapped in plastic, lying on the left side under Unknown #1.

Clothing: There was no clothing.

Information:

This is a related case to Medicolegal 73-3329.

L. C. Kelly

(See Companion Cases 73-3332, 73-3334, 73-3335, 73-3336, 73-3337, 73-3338, 73-3339, 73-3347, 73-3348, 73-3349, 73-3350, 73-3353, 73-3354, 73-3355, 73-3356 and 73-3357)

Property: There was no property.

Transferred to Morgue by: Bob Lee Funeral Home, Houston, Texas

Funeral Home Conducting Service: Heights Funeral Home, Houston, Texas

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Billy Baulch Sr.				Maggie Jane Cox				
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